

## Comparative analysis of value systems of Roma and non-Roma children: qualitative research

### Abstract

This research attempts to get a better insight into and compare the values of Roma and non-Roma children. Since we did not have previous data on the values (i.e. what is important to those children) primarily at Roma children, a qualitative method (work in focus groups) was applied. Research participants were divided into four focus groups: two groups of non-Roma children with 5 participants in each, and two groups of Roma children with 4 and 3 participants. Children in the focus groups were asked the set of questions about their values.

Participant responses were recorded, then transcribed and subjected to content analysis. It turned out to be appropriate to classify the statements of the participants into nine categories: 1. education, 2. material (economic) security, 3. family, 4. physical and mental health, 5. interpersonal relations (social interactions), 6. social justice, 7. physical activity, 8. achievement (goal setting and perseverance) and 9. personal growth and development (personality development; self-actualization).

**Keywords:** focus groups; qualitative analysis; Roma children; values